



## Early Journal Content on JSTOR, Free to Anyone in the World

This article is one of nearly 500,000 scholarly works digitized and made freely available to everyone in the world by JSTOR.

Known as the Early Journal Content, this set of works include research articles, news, letters, and other writings published in more than 200 of the oldest leading academic journals. The works date from the mid-seventeenth to the early twentieth centuries.

We encourage people to read and share the Early Journal Content openly and to tell others that this resource exists. People may post this content online or redistribute in any way for non-commercial purposes.

Read more about Early Journal Content at <http://about.jstor.org/participate-jstor/individuals/early-journal-content>.

JSTOR is a digital library of academic journals, books, and primary source objects. JSTOR helps people discover, use, and build upon a wide range of content through a powerful research and teaching platform, and preserves this content for future generations. JSTOR is part of ITHAKA, a not-for-profit organization that also includes Ithaka S+R and Portico. For more information about JSTOR, please contact [support@jstor.org](mailto:support@jstor.org).

**Idioblasts of Cruciferae.**—SCHWEIDLER<sup>16</sup> has decided to assign a systematic value to the peculiar idioblasts of the Cruciferae. The author at present reserves judgment as to their generic value, though this is expected to be established by further work. He has no doubt, however, that suborders and tribes can be accurately defined. On this basis he divides the family into three suborders. The first is characterized by the presence of idioblasts which contain chlorophyll and which are located exclusively in the mesophyll. The idioblasts of the second suborder occur in the vascular tissue and differ from those of the first group in not containing chlorophyll. The third suborder is composed of members which have both kinds of idioblasts. Just what would happen to the systematic standing of an individual so unfortunate as to have had the development of its idioblasts inhibited is certainly not for the reviewer to say, but in view of the urgent necessity of establishing systematic work upon an experimental basis rather than morphological, it is difficult to escape the conviction that more or less futility is involved in all those efforts of which this paper is an example.—RAYMOND H. POND.

**Araucarineae.**—A preliminary note by THOMSON<sup>17</sup> states that in *Agathis* there are many supernumerary nuclei in the pollen tube and that in *Araucaria* as many as thirty were counted. The pollen tube grows along the surface of the ligule for 22<sup>cm</sup> or more before entering the micropyle. The anatomy of the ovule and development of the archegonia, as well as of the pollen tubes and megaspore membranes indicate that the Araucarineae occupy a very isolated position among the Coniferales.

SEWARD and FORD in an abstract of a paper<sup>18</sup> read before the Royal Society Dec. 14, 1905, indicate the scope of an extensive investigation of the Araucarieae. The section headings are: Introduction, distribution, diagnosis and synonymy, seedlings, root and stem anatomy, leaves and leaf traces, reproductive shoots, fossils, and phylogenetic considerations and conclusions.

The most important conclusion is that the group, unlike the Cycadales, has been derived from lycopodiaceous ancestors. The Araucarieae differ so greatly from the other Coniferales that the authors suggest the substitution of the term, *Araucariales* for *Araucarieae*.—CHARLES J. CHAMBERLAIN.

**Inhibitory action.**—ERRERA<sup>19</sup> suggests that the non-development of lateral branches or their growth in a particular position (e. g., of certain conifers) is determined by inhibitory stimuli (de nature catalysatrice si l'on veut) traversing either bark (*Araucaria*) or all living cells (*Picea*). We may conceive, he says, the apex of the stem or root as a sort of tyrant who forbids the subjacent

<sup>16</sup>SCHWEIDLER, J. H., Die systematische Bedeutung der Eiweiss- oder Myrosinzellen der Cruciferen nebst Beiträgen zu ihrer anatomisch-physiologischen Kenntniss. Ber. Deutsch. Bot. Gesells. 23:274-285. pl. 1905.

<sup>17</sup>THOMSON, R. B., Preliminary note on the Araucarineae. Science 22:88. 1905.

<sup>18</sup>SEWARD, A. C., and FORD, Sibille, O., The Araucarieae, recent and extinct.

<sup>19</sup>ERRERA, L., Conflicts de préséance et excitations inhibitoires chez les végétaux. Mém. Soc. Roy. Bot. Belgique 42: 27-43. 3. Aug. 1905.